

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-9 (cancelled)

Claim 10 (currently amended): A photosensitive element comprising:

- a) a backing layer
- b) at least one layer of photopolymerizable material on said backing layer;
- c) at least one ablation layer which is ablative by infrared radiation and opaque to non-infrared actinic radiation, wherein the infrared ablation layer is in direct contact with the at least one photopolymerizable layer and has a surface opposite the photopolymerizable layer capable of being exposed to laser ablation, the infrared ablation layer comprising:
 - i) at least one ultraviolet radiation infrared absorbing material; and
 - ii) at least one binder that is selected from the group consisting of polyacetals, polyacrylics, polyamides, polyimides, polybutylenes, polycarbonates, polyesters, polyethylenes, polyphenylene ethers and polyethylene oxides ~~that is a polyacetal, polyacrylic, polyimide, polybutylene, polycarbonate, polyester, polyethylene, polyphenylene ether or polyethylene oxide~~;

wherein the ablation layer is ablative from the surface of the photopolymerizable layer upon exposure to infrared laser radiation.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The element of claim 10 wherein said backing layer is transparent.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The element of claim 10 wherein said photopolymer layer of photopolymerizable material comprises a photopolymer selected from the group consisting of polyurethanes, acrylonitrile rubbers, and diblock and triblock copolymers ~~made from styrene-isoprene and styrene-butadiene includes a polyurethane, acrylonitrile rubber, or a diblock or triblock copolymer made from styrene-isoprene or styrene-butadiene~~.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The element of claim 12 wherein said polyurethane is selected from the group consisting of acid-modified acrylate polyurethanes and amine-modified acrylate polyurethanes ~~an acid-modified acrylate polyurethane or an amine-modified acrylate polyurethane~~.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The element of claim 10 wherein said ultraviolet radiation ~~infrared~~ absorbing material absorbs infrared radiation having a wavelength of 10.6 μm .

Claims 15-17 (cancelled)

Claim 18 (currently amended): The element of claim 10 wherein the ultraviolet radiation ~~infrared~~ absorbing material constitutes about 1-20 weight parts per hundred of said ablation layer.

Claim 19 (new): The element of claim 10 wherein the ultraviolet radiation absorbing material is selected from the group consisting of benzophenone derivatives and strongly absorbing dyes.

Claim 20 (new): The element of claim 10 wherein said laser is a CO₂ laser that emits at a wavelength of 10.6 μm .